

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF BIRMINGHAM NEIGHBORHOOD WIRELESS BROADBAND NETWORK FEASIBILITY STUDY

INTRODUCTION

The City of Birmingham, Alabama requires assistance with assessment and development for the implementation of a neighborhood broadband wireless network in the disaster recovery area of the Pratt City neighborhood.

SCOPE OF WORK

The City of Birmingham is requesting proposals from qualified professionals to conduct a comprehensive wireless broadband assessment and feasibility study for the Pratt City neighborhood, including any needed system redundancy. The feasibility study should provide analysis of Pratt City's opportunity to establish wireless broadband services in the neighborhood. The study should also provide a reasonable assessment of the opportunities for the neighborhood, the most viable business, financial, and operational models and the deployment plan that will enable the City to take advantage of these opportunities. The successful consultant will need to demonstrate their ability to conduct market analysis, engineering network design, business plan development, regulatory understanding and operational best practice scenarios. Based on the consultant's analysis and feedback from the City, the successful proposer will prepare a broadband strategy for the Pratt City neighborhood that creates the greatest opportunity to implement a network that is capable of meeting current and long term community needs. It should be noted that this request is for a feasibility study only. If wireless is determined to be a feasible endeavor, it is at the City's discretion to determine whether issuance of a subsequent implementation RFP is desirable.

The feasibility study should address several key issues:

- Exercise I- Determine and Define Steps Required to Develop a Wireless Broadband Plan
- Exercise II- Conduct Feasibility Assessment for the Development of a Wireless Plan
- Exercise III- Identify and Recommend Technology Options
- Exercise IV- Identify and Recommend Design Options
- Exercise V- Identify Applicable Business Models Regarding Municipal Wireless Networks
- Exercise VI- Present Findings in a Written Report

TIMELINE

- RFP Issued: Sunday, November 30, 2014
- RFP Responses Due: Monday, December 15, 2014
- Selection of Consultant: Monday, December 22, 2014

The City reserves the right to make adjustments as needed to the above schedule.

QUESTIONS

Please direct all questions to Erin.Johnson@birminghamal.gov

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A consultant, firm or combination thereof wishing to submit a proposal must include the following in their response:

1. A brief history of the proposing entity, including general background, knowledge of real estate acquisition, and experience working with relevant legal issues that are typically associated with the acquisition of real property.
2. Resumes of the personnel assigned to the project.
3. A statement substantiating the resources of the proposing entity and the ability to carry out the scope of work requested.
4. Proposed fee structure, including billing rates, hourly rates, reimbursable expenses, etc. Preferences will be given to firm/individual with fixed pricing.
5. References including contact information for at least one organization to which the consultant has provided this type of service.
6. At least one (1) example of work.

SELECTION

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a selection panel consisting of City staff.

Criteria for evaluation will include:

50% Proposal for accomplishing the tasks listed in Project Scope
40% Cost
10% References

RFP SUBMISSION PROCESS

Proposal Deadline: Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 PM, December 15, 2014. Sealed proposals must be received in the Community Development Office at the address referenced below. Submittals should include three hard copies including signature. No proposals received by fax or e-mail transmission will be accepted.

Community Development Department
Room 1000- (10th Floor), City Hall
710 North 20th Street
Birmingham, AL 35203

Proposing entities are asked to note on the outside of their proposal package:

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